



# INTER-TRIBAL COUNCIL OF NEVADA, INC.

680 GREENBRAE DR.. SUITE 265 • SPARKS, NV 89431

P.O. BOX 7440 • RENO, NV 89510

PHONE (775) 355-0800 • FAX (775) 355-0648

March 16, 2012

MAK 26 2012  
42178  
Office of the Governor  
Carson City, NV

BATTLE MOUNTAIN  
BAND COUNCIL  
CARSON COLONY  
COMMUNITY COUNCIL

DRESSERVILLE  
COMMUNITY COUNCIL

DUCK VALLEY  
SHOSHONE-PAIUTE  
BUSINESS COUNCIL

DUCKWATER  
SHOSHONE  
TRIBAL COUNCIL

ELKO BAND  
COUNCIL

ELY SHOSHONE  
COUNCIL

FALLON BUSINESS  
COUNCIL

FT. McDERMITT  
PAIUTE-SHOSHONE  
TRIBES

GOSHUTE BAND  
COUNCIL

LAS VEGAS PAIUTE  
TRIBAL COUNCIL

LOVELOCK TRIBAL  
COUNCIL

MOAPA BUSINESS  
COUNCIL

PYRAMID LAKE  
TRIBAL COUNCIL

RENO/SPARKS  
TRIBAL COUNCIL

SOUTH FORK  
BAND COUNCIL

STEWART  
COMMUNITY COUNCIL

SUMMIT LAKE  
PAIUTE COUNCIL

TE-MOAK TRIBAL  
COUNCIL

TIMBISHA SHOSHONE  
TRIBE

WALKER RIVER  
PAIUTE TRIBAL  
COUNCIL

WASHOE TRIBAL  
COUNCIL

WELLS BAND  
COUNCIL

WINNEMUCCA  
COLONY COUNCIL

WOODFORDS  
COMMUNITY  
COUNCIL

YERINGTON PAIUTE  
TRIBAL COUNCIL

YOMBA TRIBAL  
COUNCIL

Julius Genachowski, Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street SW  
Washington, DC 20554

**RE: FCC Docket No. 06-229**

This letter serves to express the strong support of the 27 Tribal Nation in Nevada for the State's request to the FCC for an LTE broadband waiver.

The Inter – Tribal Emergency Response Commission (ITERC) is an emergency management organization representing the 27 Tribes in Nevada. The ITERC, a department within the Inter – Tribal Council of Nevada (ITCN) requested technical assistance from the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Office of Emergency Communication (OEC), through its Interoperable Communication Technical Assistance Program (ICTAP), to conduct a preliminary engineering study of the 27 Tribes in Nevada. The study revealed significant and critical gaps attributed to lack of equipment, infrastructure and formal procedures. To address the technical gaps, further analysis defined a strategic direction and an estimated cost to upgrade Tribal public safety land mobile radio (LMR) communications to achieve operability and interoperability with State and local Public safety agency.

The ITERC and ITCN agreed that any communication strategy must require Interoperability among the 27 Tribes. Although some of the Tribes are operable or interoperable with surrounding local agencies, they are not currently operable or interoperable with each other. Because of the locations and distance between the Tribes throughout the State of Nevada, the linking of systems become increasingly challenging.

For these reasons, merging with existing Nevada LMR public safety radio systems was ITERC's preferred options for the Tribes. The ITERC has therefore chosen to align its strategic direction and mission with the Nevada Shared Radio Systems (NSRS). This decision was based on the overall operability and interoperability requirements, the

strategic direction of the NSRS and the opportunity to participate in the evolution of the State's plan for LTE communications functionality.

This decision was presented to the Homeland Security Commission of Nevada (Commission) coincide with the Commission's action on January 7, 2012 to communicate its support for the grant of Nevada's Request for Waiver of certain FCC rules. Nevada's waiver is essential to permit it to advance its plans to construct a 700 Mhz LTE network. The ITC, on behalf of the 27 Tribes in Nevada strongly supports the State's request for its waiver and fervently encourages the FCC to Grant Nevada's request for its waiver.

The NSRS has the largest statewide coverage area with 108 sites already installed and it is linked to the Washoe County and Las Vegas systems. Therefore, it offers the best starting point for a statewide Tribal System while providing the greatest opportunity for interoperability. Granting Nevada's waiver to construct a LTE network also has mutual benefits as the addition of the Tribal LMR sites will also improve radio coverage for the State of Nevada public safety agencies, including the Nevada Highway Patrol (NHP), Nevada Department of Transportation (NDOT) and other users.

The safety, security and future success of the 27 Tribes are dependent upon their ability to communicate. Nevada's waiver must be immediately granted to support the shared vision of the State of Nevada and the 27 Tribal Nations within its borders.

Sincerely yours,



Billy A. Bell  
President

CC:

Senator Majority Leader Harry Reid  
Senator Dean Heller  
Congressman Mark Amodei  
Congressman Joe Heck  
Congresswoman Shelley Berkley  
Honorable Governor Brian Sandoval, State of Nevada